Docket No.: 01-02 US

## REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Mahatan and Examiner Allen for conducting the telephonic interviews, and for their courtesies and efforts in assisting Applicant to advance prosecution of the subject application.

Amendments to claims 1, 19, and 43 are for the purpose of clarifying what Applicant regards as the invention. Amendments to claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 13-18, 44, 45, 67-70, 72, and 76-81 are to bring these claims into conformity with the language of their respective base claims. Amendments to claims 20-29 are to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-18, 44, and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-29, 43-45, and 67-81 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph. Claims 6 and 70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph. Based on the discussions with the Examiner, Applicant believes that the amendments to the claims have overcome the claim rejections, and respectfully requests for an allowance. If, the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, please contact the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

Bingham McCutchen LLP

Dated: 4/5/04

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